

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE

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AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 214848

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XA, XB, XM, XF, EG

SUBJECT: ARAB AND SOVIET CRITICISM OF PRESIDENT SADAT IN
WAKE OF EGYPT-ISRAEL AGREEMENT

FOR AMBASSADOR OR CHARGE FROM THE SECRETARY

1. IN THE WAKE OF THE NEW EGYPT-ISRAEL AGREEMENT, EGYPTIAN
PRESIDENT SADAT HAS COME UNDER STRONG ATTACK IN THE ARAB
WORLD AND IN PARTICULAR SYRIA. THESE ATTACKS ARE OF GREAT CONCERN TO
US

SINCE THEY INCREASE THE POSSIBILITY ON INSTABILITY IN THE
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AREA AND CREATE A CLIMATE WHICH WILL MAKE FURTHER PEACE

EFFORTS MORE DIFFICULT. CONSEQUENTLY, WE WISH TO TAKE STRONG POSITIVE STEPS NOW TO SUPPORT THE AGREEMENT AND SADAT'S POSITION AND ENLIST THE SUPPORT OF SELECTED THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES IN OUR ENDEAVORS.

2. IT IS OF COURSE UP TO EGYPT TO CONVINCE ITS FRIENDS IN ASIA, AFRICA, AND LATIN AMERICA THAT THE LATEST

AGREEMENT ADVANCES THE ARAB CAUSE AND DOES NOT CONTRAVENE THE POSITION OF THE NON-ALIGNED STATES CONCERNING THE MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT. SINCE ONE OF THE CHARGES EGYPT FACES IS THAT THROUGH THE AGREEMENT IT HAS MOVED TOO CLOSE TO THE U.S., ANY U.S. APPROACH TO THIRD WORLD GOVERNMENTS WILL HAVE TO BE HANDLED WITH GREAT TACT. IN ORDER TO GIVE EGYPT THE TYPE OF SUPPORT WHICH CAN BEST SERVE BOTH OUR INTERESTS, IN THOSE ADDRESSEE CAPITALS WHERE EGYPT IS REPRESENTED, YOU SHOULD DISCUSS IMMEDIATELY WITH THE EGYPTIAN CHIEF OF MISSION WHETHER HE IS PLANNING A DEMARCHE WITH THE HOST GOVERNMENT AND WHAT COMPLEMENTARY APPROACH HE FEELS IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR YOU TO MAKE. IN ABSENCE OF EGYPTIAN REPRESENTATION, YOU SHOULD PROCEED INDEPENDENTLY.

3. IN YOUR APPROACH TO THE HOST GOVERNMENT AFTER COORDINATING (WHERE APPLICABLE) WITH THE EGYPTIAN CHIEF OF MISSION, YOU SHOULD EXPLAIN THE IMPORTANCE OF THE AGREEMENT AND CONVEY OUR DESIRE FOR THAT GOVERNMENTS SUPPORT OF THE AGREEMENT. YOU SHOULD BE GUIDED BY THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

(A) THE UNITED STATES IS COMMITTED TO SEEK A JUST AND DURABLE PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND IS UNIQUELY PLACED TO WORK WITH ALL THE PARTIES TO THAT END WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 338, WHICH ENVISAGE AN OVERALL, COMPREHENSIVE SETTLEMENT OF ALL ASPECTS OF THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT.

(B) IT WAS WITHIN THAT FRAMEWORK THAT THE LONG AND ARDUOUS NEGOTIATIONS WHICH RESULTED IN THE EGYPTIAN-CONFIDENTIAL

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ISRAELI AGREEMENT WERE CONDUCTED.

(C) THE NEW EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI AGREEMENT IS NOT AN END IN ITSELF BUT A STEP IN KEEPING WITH RESOLUTIONS 338 AND 242 DESIGNED TO GENERATE GREATER MOMENTUM FOR ACHIEVING A JUST AND DURABLE PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST; WE BELIEVE IT WILL FACILITATE MOVEMENT TOWARD PEACE.

(D) IT IS THE FIRST ACT OF SETTLEMENT BETWEEN THE ARABS AND ISRAEL WHICH HAS BEEN ACHIEVED IN CIRCUMSTANCES OTHER THAN AS A DIRECT CONSEQUENCE OF HOSTILITIES; THUS, IT PROVES THAT AGREEMENT CAN BE ACHIEVED IN THE MIDDLE EAST WITHOUT RESORT TO ARMS, AND PRESIDENT SADAT HAS SHOWN GREAT STATESMANSHIP IN PROVIDING LEADERSHIP TO THE ARAB WORLD IN PURSUANCE OF OVERALL ARAB INTERESTS.

(E) THE AGREEMENT ENTAILS SIGNIFICANT WITHDRAWAL FROM STRATEGIC TERRITORY AS WELL AS IMPORTANT UNDERTAKINGS TO CONTINUE THE PEACEMAKING PROCESS.

(F) THE U.S. IS DETERMINED TO PREVENT STALEMATE IN THE ARAB-ISRAELI SITUATION AND IS PREPARED TO ACTIVELY ENCOURAGE AND WORK FOR PROGRESS ON ALL ASPECTS OF THE PROBLEM, INCLUDING IN THE FIRST INSTANCE THE SYRIAN FRONT.

(G) WE BELIEVE THAT THE MOMENTUM TOWARD PEACE WHICH THE AGREEMENT REPRESENTS MUST BE MAINTAINED; THIS CANNOT BE DONE BY EMPHASIZING THE EXISTING DIVISIONS IN THE MIDDLE EAST BUT ONLY BY CAPITALIZING ON THE MOVEMENT ALREADY INITIATED.

(H) WE HOPE YOUR GOVERNMENT WILL AGREE WITH US THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO GIVE PRESIDENT SADAT SUPPORT IN HIS COURAGEOUS ACTION IN THE CAUSE OF PEACE AND THAT YOU WILL FIND WAYS TO GIVE THIS SUPPORT PUBLIC EXPRESSION.

4. YOU SHOULD REPORT IMMEDIATELY ON YOUR DISCUSSION WITH THE EGYPTIAN REPRESENTATIVE AND YOUR APPROACH TO THE HOST GOVERNMENT. KISSINGER
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